

SMART & BIGGAR*Intellectual Property & Technology Law*

To Fax no.: 1-703-872-9306
Page 1 of: 3
Attention: Examiner Frank Duong
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

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From: John W. Knox
Your file no.: S.N. 09/475,308

Date: December 3, 2003

Reply to Vancouver file no.: 82269-3

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Re: United States Patent Application No. 09/475,308

Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING A
PLURALITY OF PRE-DEFINED CODES INTO A SEARCH
KEY AND FOR LOCATING A LONGEST MATCHING
PRE-DEFINED CODE**

Art Unit: 2666
Examiner: Frank Duong
Applicant: Delfin Y. Montuno et al.

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Response #8
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WitcherUnited States
82269-3
Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION

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Serial Number: 09/475,308
Group Art Unit: 2666
Examiner: Frank Duong
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING A
PLURALITY OF PRE-DEFINED CODES INTO A
SEARCH KEY AND FOR LOCATING A LONGEST
MATCHING PRE-DEFINED CODE
Filing Date: December 30, 1999
Inventors: Delfin Y. Montuno; James Aweya
Agent's ref: 82269-3

December 3, 2003

U.S. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
United States

Dear Sir:

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. 703-872-9306
on December 3, 2003.*

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John W. Knox, Reg. No. 35,776

RESPONSE

This is a response to the Official Action dated November 5, 2003, the time for response to which is set to expire December 5, 2003.

Page 1 of 2

Applicant hereby elects claims 1-21 for examination at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge:

1. receipt and entry of the Preliminary Amendment dated April 4, 2000,
2. receipt of an Information Disclosure Statement dated June 15, 2000 and accompanying references; and
3. receipt of an Identification of Co-Pending Application dated August 18, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



John W. Knox, Reg. No. 35,776
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